

## Spotlight on Pickens . . .

*Pickens County was named for Revolutionary War hero Andrew Pickens (1739-1817). This area in the north-western corner of the state, was Indian Territory until 1777. It subsequently became part of the Pendleton District (at one time called the Washington District). The earliest European settlers in this region were Indian traders. The British built Fort Prince George around 1753 as protection against the Indians, and the fort was the site of several battles in the Cherokee War of 1756. The Cherokee town of Old Seneca was later destroyed by American troops in 1776. John C. Calhoun (1782-1850), U.S. Vice President, Senator, and cabinet member, made his home at Fort Hill plantation in Pickens County. His son-in-law, Thomas Green Clemson (1807-1888), bequeathed the plantation to the state for use as an agricultural college, which led to the founding of Clemson University.*

### Liberty Workforce Center

317 Summit Drive, P O Box 539

Liberty, SC 29657

(864) 843-9512 / FAX: (864) 843-2038

### Location & Climate

- Located in the northwestern area of the state
- Surrounded by Oconee, Anderson and Greenville counties, with North Carolina to the north
- This region has an average temperature of 60.6 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 63.3 inches.

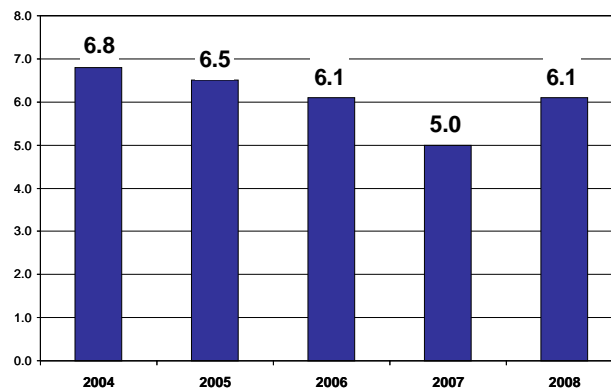
### Population

- Was 115,610 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 128,260 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 90.3% White, 6.9% African-American, and 2.8% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population has increased from 1,879 in 2000 to 3,252 in 2007, a 73.1% change.

### Labor Force

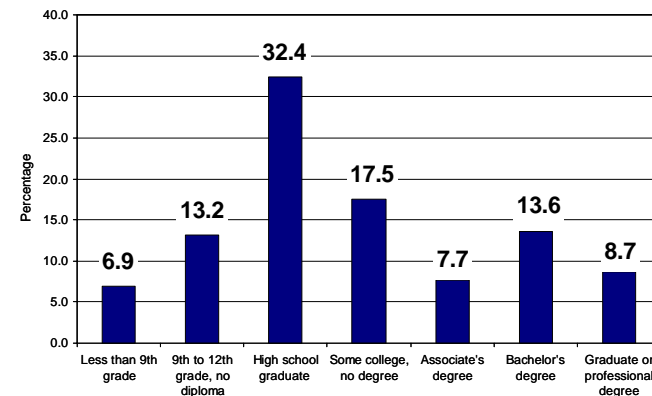
- Increased from 58,060 in 2007 to 59,310 in 2008
- Employment rose from 55,150 in 2007 to 55,720 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate climbed from 5.0% in 2007 to 6.1% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Pickens County  
2004 - 2008



### Educational Attainment

Pickens County 2007



### Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$26,620 for 2007.
- This was 86% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 69% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

### Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Liberty Workforce Center, which serves Pickens County, paid \$9,523,610 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



### SC Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information

P O Box 995

Columbia, SC 29202

(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838

(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)

<http://www.sces.org/lmi>